

# Humboldt Redwoods State Park



## Avenue of the Giants Auto Tour



This brochure made possible by the generous  
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Family of Thomas & Nancy Newman

## F.K. Lane – Stop #1

(If starting from the North drive south  
2.5 miles to Drury/Chaney Grove #8)

The greatest accumulation of biomass (living and dead organic material) ever recorded was in a coast redwood forest in Humboldt Redwoods State Park.

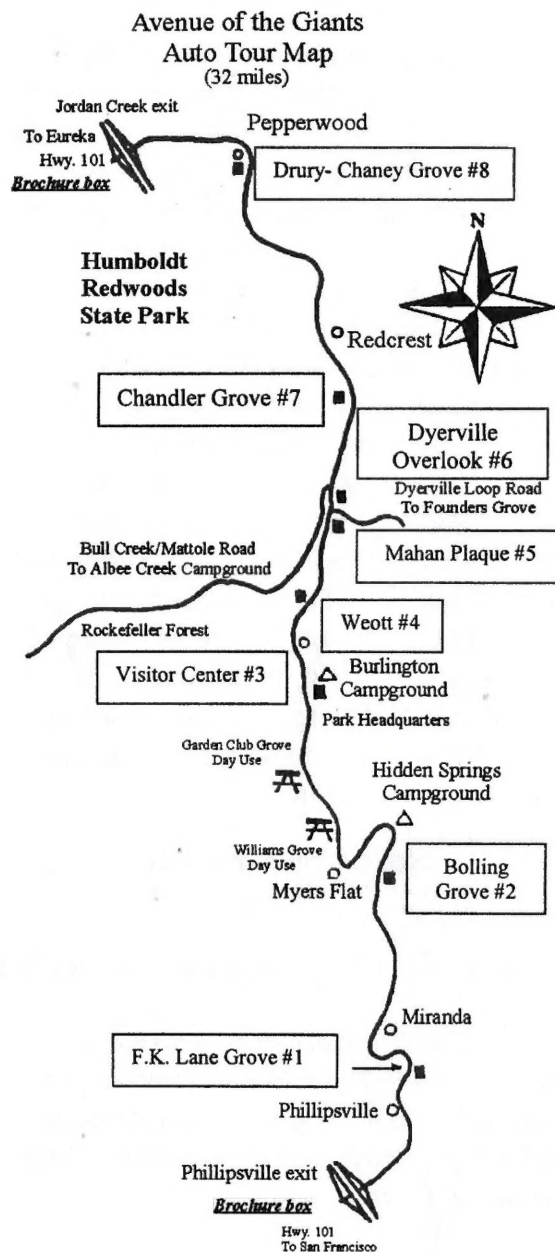
Coast redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) are taller than any other living thing. They can live over 2,000 years and withstand fires, floods and insects. As you drive along the Avenue some of the groves you see have never been logged. These are ancient, or old growth, coast redwoods. Their average ages are 400-600 years old.

Redwoods can be enjoyed any time of the year. Each season presents a different look.

(Next stop 7.5 miles)

## Bolling Grove – Stop #2

As you take the tour, you will notice redwoods have many interesting shapes and sizes. Children are perhaps better able to imagine those “magical” shapes as animals and other fantasies. On the river side of the Avenue at Bolling Grove, you can find a tree with many burls. A burl results from a tree undergoing some form of stress. (Next stop 6 miles)



Enjoy your drive finding the “Magic”

## Visitor Center – Stop #3

Stop here for year round information.

The visitor center, run by the Humboldt Redwoods Interpretive Association and many volunteers, is dedicated to making your trip pleasurable by offering directions to local roads, trails, accommodations and attractions.

Profits from sales at the visitor center book store go toward displays, nature walks, and interpretive programs for all ages, and publications.

Stroll through the native garden area at the visitor center and you'll see many native plants. All three species of redwoods have been planted for comparison, the Giant Sequoia, Coast Redwood and Dawn Redwood for you to see.

(Next stop 2 miles)

## Weott – Stop #4

The Eel River has experienced many catastrophic floods in the past. Evidence of the flood of 1964 may be seen near the Weott intersection where a marker atop a 35 foot pole indicates the high water level during the height of that memorable flood event.

(Next stop ½ mile)



## Mahan Plaque – Stop #5

A walk into the forest will bring you to the Mahan Plaque, honoring a couple who were instrumental in preserving the forest you now see. The large trees along this stretch of the Avenue will give you a real feel for the mysteries that are still hidden deep in these forests. Early one morning in the half-light, a park visitor reportedly saw a large creature amble across the road. This was one of several reports of an elusive, apparition (Sasquatch or "Big Foot" ) seen in the area

**(Next stop ½ mile)**

## Dyerville - Stop #6

Dyerville was a stagecoach stop, a shipping port, and a crossroads town that played an important role in the early settlement of this redwood area. It was completely destroyed by the flood of 1955.

Rockefeller Forest is directly west from here in the Bull Creek basin, along the Mattole Road. It is considered one of the finest forests in the world.

In 1927 John D. Rockefeller was so enchanted with the redwoods he donated \$1,000,000.00 to preserve them. And In 1929 donated another \$1,000,000.00

**(Next stop 2.2 miles)**

## Chandler Grove-Stop #7

The panel at this stop explains old growth. One way to truly experience this unique forest is to take a walk along the trail from the parking lot. Each mature tree in the forest supports many species of plants, animals and insects. Look down at the forest floor as you walk, to observe a complete community living at your feet. Forest floor dwellers such as the salamanders stalk there among the fallen redwood needles. Banana slugs slowly but thoroughly recycle forest litter into compost. As you walk farther along the trail, carefully look up into the tree tops. Many plants and animals live almost exclusively in a world 300 feet about the ground. A rare sea bird, the Marbled Murrelet, nests in these old growth forests on large, old growth limbs. When not nesting and raising chicks, their home is on the ocean.

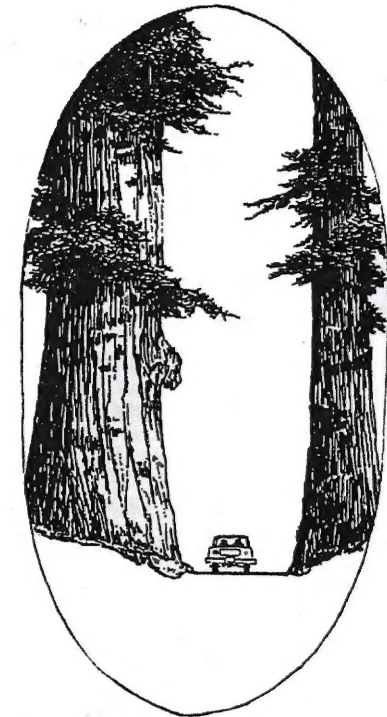
**(Next stop 5.7 miles)**

## Drury/Chaney Grove - Stop #8

This 2.4 mile nature loop trail is often considered one of the nicest nature trails in the park. The majestic redwoods and carpet of redwood sorrel makes it look almost prehistoric.

**Remember no dogs are allowed on all trails except Service Dogs.**

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